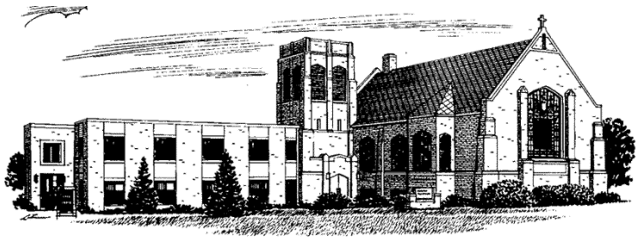


The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: oleson@saronlutheran.org

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Chime Choir Director
Email: mroll@saronlutheran.org
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative Assistant
Denise Cook, Financial Secretary

Sundays at Saron:
Summers (thru Labor Day weekend):
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

During the School Year (beginning Sept 8):
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

All are welcome!

We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Mark Hanson,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop-Elect, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook: www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

October 2013

The numbers are staggering. Even though we'd like to think it doesn't happen, or doesn't happen close to us, it does. I am writing of human trafficking, a modern-day form of slavery and the 2nd largest criminal industry in the world.

There are more slaves in the world today than at any other point in human history, with an estimated 27 million people in bondage across the globe. Trafficking in persons is estimated to be one of the top grossing criminal industries in the world today and unfortunately these figures also reflect the reality that Michigan is a source, destination and transit state that has victims, U.S. citizens and foreign nationals, who are trapped in forced labor and sexual exploitation. (From the Michigan Human Trafficking Website)

Locally, the Southwest Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force was formed to help create awareness and work to combat trafficking by helping to provide resources and training. It is a collaborative effort, including that of community organizations, faith communities, and law enforcement, as well as others. By action of the congregation council, Saron has joined the task force.

We have so much to learn! Watch for more information or contact Pastor, Jan Stevens, or Wendy King.

And, if you are on Facebook, consider "liking" *SW Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force.*

God's Work. Our Hands.

Pastor Joan

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –

We remember in our thoughts and prayers: **Arlene Malkin** is at the Lakeland Continuing Care Center, 3425 Lakeshore Dr., St. Joseph MI 49085; **Arla Huelsberg** is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph; **Ruth Harris** is at Lakeland's Berrien Center Campus, 6418 Dean's Hill Road; **Ev Maki** is at Caretel; **Lila Roethel** is at the Willows; **Elvera Freier** is at Crownpointe Senior Living, Stevensville; **Dorris Doutt** is at Woodland Terrace, Bridgman and **Eleanor Anderson** at home.

Serving in the military:

Ed Standen – Charleston, SC
Marko Wedde – North Carolina
Andy Wedde – North Carolina

Office Hours at Saron

Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9 AM - 11 AM+
Denise (financial secretary): times vary
Call for other times/changes

Pastor: most mornings, except Fridays
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.

Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to oleson@saronlutheran.org. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to info@saronlutheran.org.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members in October Birthday Wishes

Oct. 2- Steve Cook
Judith Wedde
4 –Jim Oleson
Mary Kynast
5 - Thomas Sible
8 - Jonathon Peterson
10 - Hannah Breyen
12 - Andrew Olson
13 – Kerrie Hoodlebrink
14 - Pauline Ngonyani
15 - Elias Coar
16 - Kristine Weber
19 - Robert Baumgartner
20 – Keith Stevens
24 - Matthew Baumgartner
26 - Gary Cowall
28 - Peter Stevens
29 - Donald Moely
30 – Emily (Weber) Buhnerkempe
31 - Ivan Kiessel

October Anniversary Wishes

Oct. 2 –Steve and Cynthia Schmidt
6 - Robert and Charlene Baumgartner
13 - David and Susan Bailey
23 – Henry and Pat Breyen

For additions or corrections, please call the church are incorrect from the birthday and anniversary list, please call the church office at 983-1273. Thank you.

Worship

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 6, 2013
Habakkuk 1:1–4; 2:1–4
Psalm 37:1–9 (5)
2 Timothy 1:1–14
Luke 17:5–10

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
October 13, 2013
2 Kings 5:1–3, 7–15c
Psalm 111 (1)
2 Timothy 2:8–15
Luke 17:11–19

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
October 20, 2013
Genesis 32:22–31
Psalm 121 (2)
2 Timothy 3:14—4:5
Luke 18:1–8

Reformation Day
October 27, 2013
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 46 (7)
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36

Prayer

Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which will include lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

New Members

New members will be received on Sunday, October 6. If you are interested in becoming a member of Saron please talk with Pastor.

Lutheran Social Services of Michigan Sunday

Pastor Phil Hemke, Director of Church Relations for LSSM will be with us on Sunday, November 10. Pastor Hemke will preach and lead the Adult Forum to help acquaint us with the ministry of LSSM as together we do "God's Work. Our Hands."

Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 5 at 2:00 p.m.
Saron's Courtyard
(Poor weather? We'll meet inside.)

Bring your (leashed or caged) pet/animal for a service of blessing, as well as treats for dogs, cats, and humans, too!
Get your picture taken with your pet.

Needed – Old Wood

We are in need of old barn wood or other weathered wood for a project for our mid-week Advent worship. If you have some, or know where it can be found, please contact Kathie Bradley, Krin Jurgensen, or Pastor.

Learning book *of* faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast

Men's Bible Devotions/Breakfast will be on October 5th, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at the church. Gather at Saron for a devotion followed by breakfast at a local restaurant.

Bible Study – Wednesday Mid-day

You are invited to join a study and discussion on the Scripture readings that will be used the following Sunday at worship. Join the conversation on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM.

Sunday School

We celebrated the start of a new Sunday School year on September 8 by participating in the ELCA's "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday. Here our Sunday School children sort and pack up the school supplies that have been donated and get them ready for distribution.

Confirmation Classes
Confirmation Youth clean windows and spread mulch as part of "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday.

High School and Adult Forum
High School students as well as adults are invited to the Adult Forum on Sunday mornings at 9:40 in the lounge. Presently, we are watching the PBS documentary, "The Mormons." Join us!

Thursday Morning Bible Study
We continue our study on the book of Daniel Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:00.

On October 24 we begin an 8-week study on the book of Revelation where we learn that "*God is profoundly concerned with the plight of the world, and faithful even amid the ordeals, tribulations, and plagues of the present and future. God is also exalted in the highest heavens, and brings about a renewed creation. In the end, the promise that Jesus will return is reason for hope, anticipation, and expectation."* Cost of the study book is $10.50. All are welcome!

1st Sunday Book Club
Our first meeting of the new season will be October 6th, 6:30 p.m. in the upstairs lounge. The book we have chosen is *Churchill's Secretary: A Novel,* by Susan Elia MacNeal. This fast-paced thriller is full of real people, period details and a vivid tapestry of wartime London.

Then on November 3rd, same time same place, we will discuss *The Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline. Moving between contemporary Maine and Depression-era Minnesota, the novel chronicles the so-called orphan trains that ran from East Coast cities to the farmlands of the mid-west from 1854 to 1929. Supposedly these trains were carrying orphaned children to new homes and new families. This is a powerful tale of "upheaval, resilience and second chances" (novel jacket). Linda Pater will be our discussion leader and share with us her mother's actual experience as a child placed on one of the trains.

Please join us. We have good discussions and enjoy getting to know one another. You don't have to attend every session to be part of this group. Come when you can and bring a friend. Some up-coming books we plan to read are:

Saturday, by Ian McEwan
Sensible Shoes, by Sharon Garlaugh Brown
The Light Between Oceans, by M.L. Stedman

We hope to see you on October 6th. Questions? Call Kathie Bradley (269-427-7083) or Kathy Cowall (269-428-0354).

Outreach

New Narthex Monitor
Have you seen the new monitor in the narthex which is filled with announcements and pictures? Thank you to Amanda Bradley for offering to take on this project and prepare a weekly update. Here is what Amanda has to say:
Have an upcoming birthday or anniversary in your family? In addition to announcements and upcoming events, we plan to include these special occasions in the slideshow on the new monitor in the narthex and would love to be able to include personal photos the Sunday before the big day. They can be recent, childhood or wedding pictures. If you are interested, e-mail digital pictures to bradley717@gmail.com or put printed photos in a clearly labeled envelope and give to Amanda Bradley for scanning. We'll make sure you get the picture back. Note: the monitor is not connected to the internet and images will not be shared beyond the narthex at Saron.

God's Work. Our Hands.

On September 8, 2013 Saron celebrated the ELCA's 25th Anniversary , along with ELCA members in nearly 10,000 congregations. After our worship service, 29 members from Saron "rolled up our sleeves" and began our community service project. We spent the afternoon, weeding, trimming, and general yard work, at Benton Harbor City Hall and the City Center Park (across from City Hall). A big THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered their time and "gardening" talents!

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen - News

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen – August 22, 2013
What a special day, not only were we able to serve 180 guests a delicious meal, but Ruth Ball was back in "her spot" at the Soup Kitchen! Along with Ruth were Colleen Lundgren, Krin Jurgensen, Mary Alice Brunner, Jan Stevens, Tim Standen, Frieda Williams, Marlene and Richard Schalon. Saron's cookie bakers always come through! - Kris Weber, Kerrie Hoodlebrink, Linda Pater, Donna Scaravelli, Janet Oleson, Irma Gorman, and Darlene Kiessel . Thanks so much! "God's Work. Our Hands"

Blood Drive

This is one big "thank you" to all of the people who made our blood drive successful! Sixteen people attempted to give blood and eleven were accepted; the Michigan Blood group was pleased with the turn out. I would like to thank all the workers: Jan Stevens, Amanda Bradley, Marilyn Lucy, Frieda Williams, and Mary Alice Brunner. Our food people made our canteen a big hit. They were Amanda Bradley, Deb Standen, Mary Smart,and Marilyn Lucy! Giving blood was worth the treats!

I would also like to thank Joyce Marqurdt for organizing the volunteer workers, food people, and working the drive. Without her hard work the blood drive would not have been as easy and successful. Thank you.

Keith Stevens

Used Eye Glass Collection

If you have old glasses or ones that you no longer wear, please help us, the Lions Club of St. Joseph Township, to help people around the world to see clearer what a beautiful world this truly is. There is a drop off "Eye Glass box" at church that I will collect the glasses from. Again thank you for your support and assistance.

Keith Stevens
Member of Saron and member of St. Joseph Township Lions

LWR Fair Trade

We support Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade farmers through our selling of coffee, tea, cocoa and chocolate at cost. We have flavored coffee, decaf, medium and dark roast coffees, black and green teas. Please support this ministry by purchasing these products regularly for yourself and as gifts. Thank you.

Meet Me at the Freezer

Meals are available for anyone to take to someone who might need one. Enjoying a visit and providing a meal is a wonderful way to tell someone that YOU CARE! The meals are in the freezer in Saron's dining room! If you would like to be involved when we cook again, please contact Jan Stevens @ 429-2044.

Women of the ELCA

Deborah Circle –
Deborah Circle will meet on Wednesday, October 9th, 2013 at the home of Linda Pater at 7:00 p.m. Carpooling will leave from the church at 6:30. Colleen Lundgren and Kathy Cowall will lead the program.

Saron Church Women Executive Board will meet on Wednesday, October 30, 29013, at the church in the lounge at 7:00 p.m.

Lutheran World Relief Items Needed
Saron Church Women is collecting items for Lutheran World Relief. Plastic bags containing a list of needed items for a Personal Care Kit are now available. Please bring assembled kits to church no later than Sunday, October 6th, 2013. Information for contributing a Fabric Kit is also available. Bars of new soap, in original packaging, will also be accepted. No clothing is collected for this project.

If you'd like to read more about this ministry, check out http://lwr.org/getinvolved/personalcarekits.

For further information or questions, contact Colleen Lundgren (429-4974) or Melanie McCammon (983-4622). Thank you, in advance, for your continued support of this project.

Hospitality

Sign Up for Refreshments
Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. We like to have something after both early and late services. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

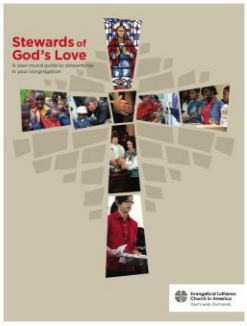
Hospitality Notes – Upcoming Fellowship Events
Celebration! Cinema is having a series of classic movie showings from now through December 19. One film is available each week with times as follows: On Monday thru Thursday, showings are at 12:00 noon and 5:45 pm. On Friday thru Sunday, there is just one showing each day, at 12:00 noon. All tickets are $4.00. We'd like to make a suggestion – if you'd like to watch the movies with your Saron friends, consider meeting them at the theater on Tuesdays at 5:45 pm or on Fridays at noon. If a following develops, you could decide to meet at 4:45 pm to catch a bite at one of the restaurants near the movie theater. You can see a complete list of the films and the dates each one will be here if you check the Celebration! website (celebrationcinema.com/location/BentonHarbor). There are some great titles, and this could be a lot of fun.

Come one and all, youngsters and the young at heart! Your Hospitality Committee is hard at work putting together a fun fall outing for late afternoon on Sunday October 27, at Barbott Farms & Greenhouse, in Stevensville, MI. Fun to include: Corn Mazes, Pumpkinville, and hayrides, followed by a picnic supper, camp fire and sing along. Save the date and we'll provide you with details as soon as possible! We'll put out a sign-up sheet the first Sunday in October so we can get an idea how many to prepare for.

Another Save the Date request! Twin City Players is offering "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" during December. We're going to reserve a block of tickets for Saron members and friends to attend the play together on December 15 at 4 pm. This play is heartwarming and fun, and it's appropriate for all ages. We'll plan to have a light supper together after the play. A sign-up sheet for this activity will be up by mid-October to help us with planning.

Questions? Contact Mary Kynast or Joyce Marquardt

Support



"Stewards of God's Love" is our new logo and emphasis for Stewardship for this fall and the coming year at Saron. As stated in the ELCA's "growing stewards" resource: "The practice of stewardship invites us to look in three different directions: DOWN, IN and OUT. We begin by looking at how God has come down to us. We then look in to discover all that God has entrusted to our care. We end by looking out to understand the needs of our neighbors. While these three actions may not always happen in this order, the practice of stewardship always invites all three." www.elca.org/growingstewards

Throughout the coming year we will explore these "three directions" and will begin this month with "Down: Relationship with God" on October 20th. Join us as we steward God's love and do God's work at Saron and throughout the community and world…….God's work. Our hands.

Interested in stories of the ELCA at work? Check out *http://www.livinglutheran.com/* to read daily conversations about what it means to live Lutheran. **Living Lutheran**, a ministry of the ELCA, includes blogs, videos and member voices.

A Special Message for Travelers and Those Who Prefer Electronic Giving

If you know you'll be missing services any time during the year due to travel, living in another location during certain times of the year or other commitments, please consider setting up automatic contributions. Your consistent support is very much appreciated. Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions. Thanks.

Council News

Attendance Record	
08/25/2013	*58*
09/01/2013	*50*
09/08/2013	*107*
09/15/2013	*90*
09/22/2013	*100*

Vision Statements:

Facilities

Create a physical environment that will support our ministry

Hospitality – Inclusivity and Welcoming

Offer for all, Christ's radical hospitality.

Worship

Provide enhanced relevant worship experiences.

Outreach

Serve our community with 100% participation of those who worship at Saron.

Youth

Strive to encourage each of our youth to grow into their unique potential for a Christ centered life.

Learning

Center our lives in Christ through life-long learning

Saron's Council Members – 2013

Dave Bradley (427-7083) – President
*Jan Stevens (429-2044) – Vice President, Outreach**
Eric Standen (556-9629) – Treasurer, Support
John Taylor (515-720-2124) – Secretary, Worship, Youth*
*Steve Bell (429-0239) – Facilities**
*Wendy King (429-2701) – Learning**
*Ken Ark (269-369-4766) – Youth**
*Connor Ashley – (269-282-6709) – Youth**
*John Hoodlebrink (408-1960) – Support**
Mary Kynast (428-0148) – Hospitality, Worship*
Joyce Marquardt (408-8650) – Hospitality, Outreach*
Joan Oleson (983-1273 office; 983-2475 home) – Pastor
**liaison*

Facilities

Thank you to everyone who helped with mowing this summer!

Lay Assistants for October - 2013

Oct. 6 **8:30 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Eric Standen
Reader/Com.Assist: Dana Riley
Acolyte: Jenna Henderson
Ushers: John Olson and Fritz Knauf
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Oct. 6 **11:00 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Drew Huff
Reader/Com.Assist: Darlene Kiessel
Acolyte: Colin Ashley
Ushers: Dave and Sue Bailey
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Marilyn Klann
Building Closing: Ken Ark

Oct. 13 **8:30 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Wendy King
Reader/ Intinction: Steve Bell
Acolyte: Brandon Burrow
Ushers : John and Kerrie Hoodlebrink
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Oct. 13 **11:00 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Catherine Ravitch
Reader/ Intinction: Brian Culverhouse
Acolyte: Connor Ashley
Ushers : Pat Breyen and Betty Appel
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Marilyn Lucy
Building Closing: Dennis and Colleen Lundgren

Oct. 20 **8:30 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Pauline Ngonyani
Reader/ Com. Assist : Marilyn Frey
Ushers: Allen Snyder and Steve Bell
Acolyte: Tim Standen
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Oct. 20 **11:00 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Denise Cook
Reader/ Com. Assist : Mary Kynast
Ushers: Tyler Cook and Steve Cook
Acolyte: Meredith Gacek
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Linda Huff
Building Closing: Bob and Mary Kynast

Oct. 27 **8:30 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Jan Stevens
Reader/ Intinction: Jim Manore
Acolyte: Danielle Hohman
Ushers: Eric and Deborah Standen
Nursery: Katie Hebner

Oct. 27 **11:00 a.m.**
Assisting Minister: Colleen Lundgren
Reader/ Intinction: Bob Knyast
Acolyte: Drew Huff
Ushers: Ivan Kiessel and Ken Ark
Nursery: Katie Hebner and Krin Jurgensen
Building Closing: Bruce Huff

Thank you for your willingness to serve. If a conflict arises for your scheduled time, please find a replacement or change with another volunteer.

Calling the church office (983-1273) to alert us to changes will help us keep the bulletin as accurate as possible and know that everyone is in place on a Sunday morning.

SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

October 2013

"God's work. Our hands"

We're on Facebook! Like us at
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

We're working on a new church directory!
Please make sure we have your current information –
street address, phone number, and e-mail address.
We'd like to include YOU!

OCTOBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 Bible Study	3 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chime Choir 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	4	5 9:00 a.m. Men's Devotion/Breakfast 2:00 p.m. Blessing of the Animals
6 Holy Com./ChildrenSer *20th Sunday after Pentecost* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. S.C.S.Classes 6:30 p.m. 1st Sunday Book Club	7 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	8	9 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Deborah Circle Meeting	10 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chime Choir 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	11	12
13 Intinction /Children Ser. *21st Sunday after Pentecost* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School Classes	14 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group Newsletter Articles Due	15 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Vasa Meeting	16 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 Bible Study	17 NO Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chime Choir 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	18	19
20 Holy Com./ChildrenSer *22nd Sunday after Pentecost* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School Classes	21 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	22	23 9:30am Golden Hammers 1:00 Bible Study Newsletters mailed	24 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chime Choir 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	25	26
27 Intinction /Children Ser. *Reformation Sunday* 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Worship 9:40 a.m. Sunday Church School Classes Late afternoon at Barbott Farms & Greenhouse	28 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	29	30 9:30am G. Hammers 1:00 Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Saron Church Women Executive Board Meeting in the lounge	31 9:30 a.m. Bible Class 6:00 p.m. Chime Choir 7:00 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal	SEPTEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	NOVEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30